



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 6487
Motoharu SEIKI et al. : Docket No. 2000-1617
Serial No. 09/734,002 : Group Art Unit 1642
Filed December 12, 2000 : Examiner K. Canella

NOVEL PROTEIN AND MONOClonAL
ANTIBODY SPECIFIC THERETO

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated November 20, 2002, the time for filing thereto being extended for two months in accordance with a Petition for Extension submitted concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly cancel claims 39-40 and nonelected claims 30-35 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 36. (Amended) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) protein or a salt of said MMP protein, or a partial peptide of said MMP protein or a salt of said partial peptide, said matrix metalloproteinase protein or salt thereof comprising the following peptide fragments of SEQ ID No: 2: (a) Gly¹⁰⁹ to Arg¹¹⁹, (b) Pro¹⁷¹ to Gly¹⁷⁸, (c) Thr²²⁹ to Leu²⁴² and (d) Asp⁵³³ to Val⁶⁰⁷, said matrix metalloproteinase protein having

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